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forming on a surface a semiconductor film having an intrinsic or substantially intrinsic channel region containing therein oxygen at a concentration of 1×10^{19} atoms/cm³ or less; and

irradiating the semiconductor film with a laser beam or a light having a strength equivalent to the laser beam to increase the degree of crystallinity of the semiconductor film.--

REMARKS

The Office Action of March 5, 1996 was received and carefully reviewed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the currently pending rejections are respectfully requested. Claims 23-35 are amended herein, and new claims 36-38 are added. Consequently, claims 23-38 are currently pending in the instant application.

Initially, applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 33-35. These claims are slightly amended to recite the "intrinsic or substantially intrinsic" aspect of the channel region of claim 32 and to positively recite a semiconductor film. The amendments should not, however, affect the allowance of the claims.

Claims 23-32 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Nakagawa in view of Wilson et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons advanced below.

Claims 23, 25 and 27 are amended herein to recite the allowable oxygen, nitrogen or carbon concentration of 1×10^{19} atoms/cm³. This concentration of oxygen has been designated as distinguishing by the Examiner on pages 6 and 7 of the Office Action. In view thereof, these claims, including claims 24, 26 and 28-32 depending therefrom, should be considered allowable.

New claims 36-38 are also added herein to further define the invention to which applicants are entitled. These claims individually recite the oxygen, nitrogen and carbon concentration of 1×10^{19} atoms/cm³, respectively, which should distinguish these claims over the cited art of record.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of record be reconsidered and withdrawn by the Examiner, that claims 23-35 be allowed, that new claims 36-38 be allowed and that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner believes a conference would be of benefit in expediting the prosecution of the instant application, he is hereby invited to telephone counsel to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



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